



BY TALKING to your children, children learn to talk better.

- Talk about the colors, sounds and smells in and around your home.
- Talk about everyday tasks. Name clothing as you help children get dressed.
- Ask your children questions. Have them ask you questions.
- Talk in whole sentences. Use lots of different words when speaking.
- Tell stories and talk about them with children. Ask them to guess what will happen next or to ask questions.
- Ask children to tell you what is important to them.



TO HELP children be ready to read and write, you can:

- Ask children to draw the picture and tell you what the picture is about. Write down what they tell you.
- Teach children to match a picture with the written word.
- Help children cut out words from a magazine.
- Encourage writing skills, even scribbling, at an early age.

HELP CHILDREN learn new words.



- Practice clapping out sounds in words. Say letters and sound out words.
- Use songs, finger plays, games and rhymes (like *Itsy Bitsy Spider* or *Diez Deditos*).
- Teach children new words. Explain what the words mean in words they can understand.



EARLY LEARNING TIPS

HELP CHILDREN LEARN EARLY

Tips to help children learn to talk, read and write

OTHER TIPS to remember:



- Give children love and attention.
 - Read, sing and talk with them each day.
 - Meet a child's needs right away.
 - Answer a baby's cries and a child's questions.
- Make safe play areas.
 - Give children time to run, jump and dance.
 - Let children do art, or play with blocks and puzzles.
 - Give children a chance to do things on their own.

- It is also good to:
 - Set up times to play with other children.
 - Let children have a few choices.
 - Be a kind and caring example for children.



USE PLAY to help children learn.

- Children can use reading and writing during play time.
- Use junk mail to play post office.
- Use a notepad to play waiter/waitress in a restaurant.
- Set up a play "office" with scrap paper and pencils.

WHERE to find help

Call your local library for more information about reading and their children's programs.